



CALTRANS COMMUTER ALERT

11-168

Date: Tuesday, September 13, 2011

District: 8 – San Bernardino

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WHAT: FLOODING IN EASTERN DESERT

WHEN: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 (0900)

WHERE: STATE ROUTE 111 NEAR SALTON SEA

SR 111 (in the North Shore area of Salton Sea) between Mecca and the Imperial County Line is closed due to heavy flooding. There is a possibility that a bridge was compromised, however, due to heavy water flow this has not been confirmed.

Once more information is available this alert will be updated.

NEVER CROSS RUNNING WATER ON THE ROADWAY!

1. Flash floods can come rapidly and unexpectedly. They can occur within a few minutes or hours of excessive rainfall, or when a dam or levee fails and even a sudden release of water held by an ice or debris jam. Be cautious during storm seasons, or any time that flooding is common in your area.
2. You may not have warning that a flash flood is approaching.
3. Do not drive unless absolutely necessary.
4. Do not drive through flooded areas. If you see a flooded-out road ahead, turn around. Find another route to your destination.
5. If there is no other route, get to higher ground and wait for the waters to subside.
6. Even if the water appears shallow enough to cross, don't try it. Water hides dips in the road. Worse yet, there may be no road at all under the water. Flooding can scour away the entire road surface and a significant amount of ground beneath.
7. If your car stalls, abandon it immediately and climb to higher ground.
8. Six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars, causing loss of control or possible stalling.
9. One foot of water will float almost any vehicles.
10. Two feet of rushing water can sweep away most vehicles — including SUVs and pick-ups.

Source: <http://www.weather.com/activities/driving/drivingsafety/drivingsafetytips/flood.html>

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